YAAGO
Young African American Gay Outreach

and AID Atlanta Presents...

GET YOUR LIFE!

A DEEPER LOVE

ARE YOU SURE?

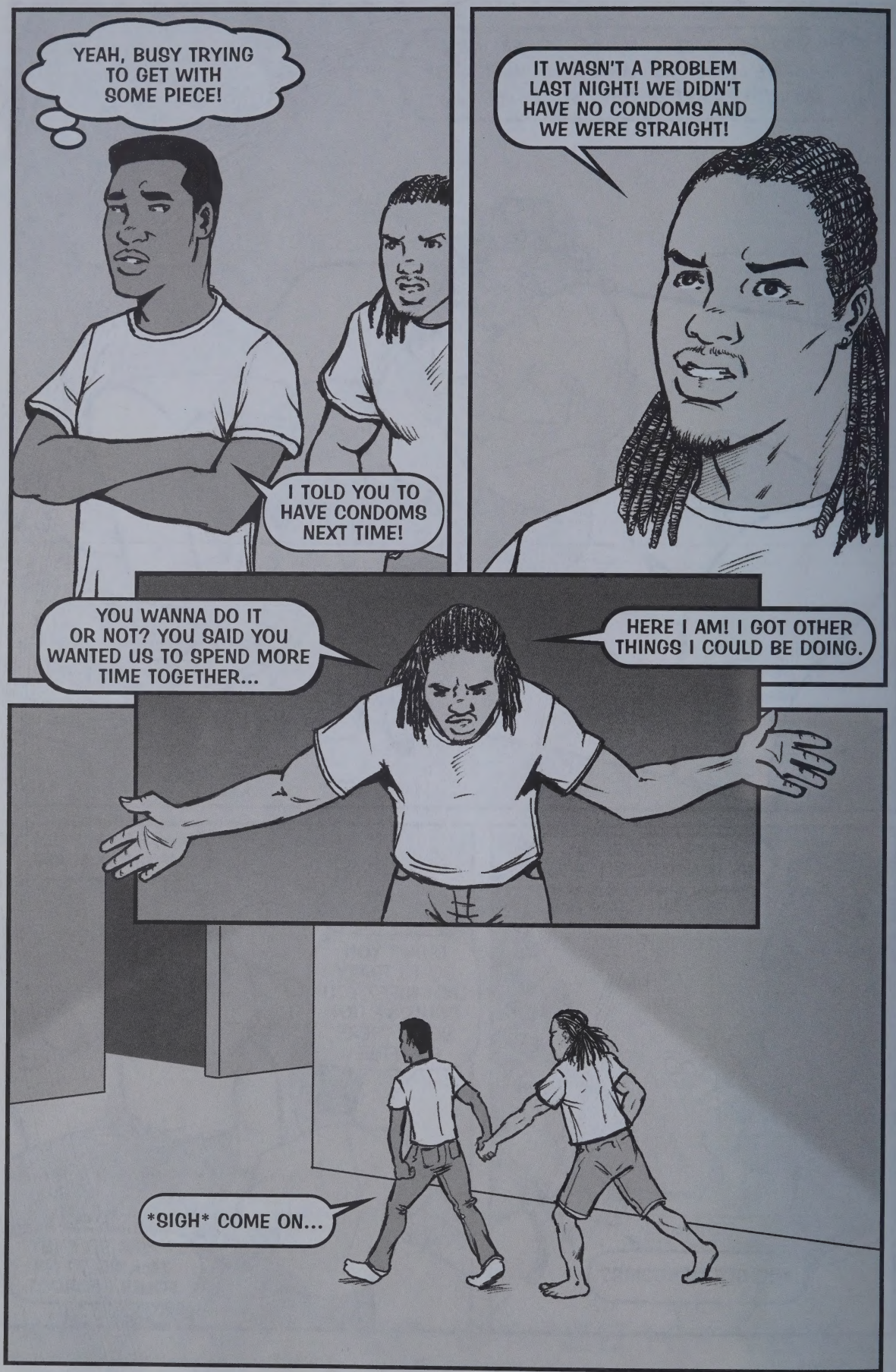
AID Atlanta

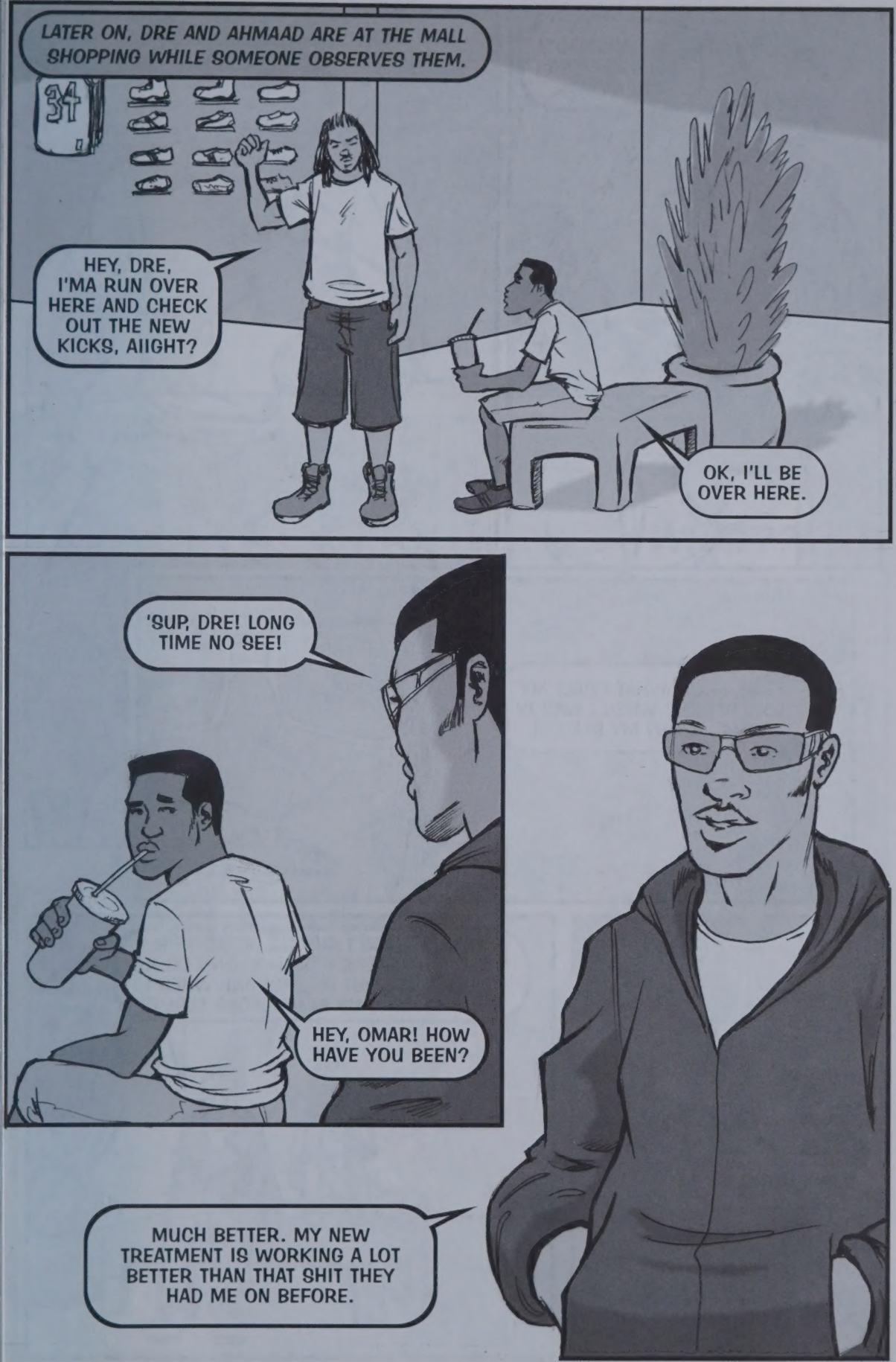
Young African American Gay Outreach

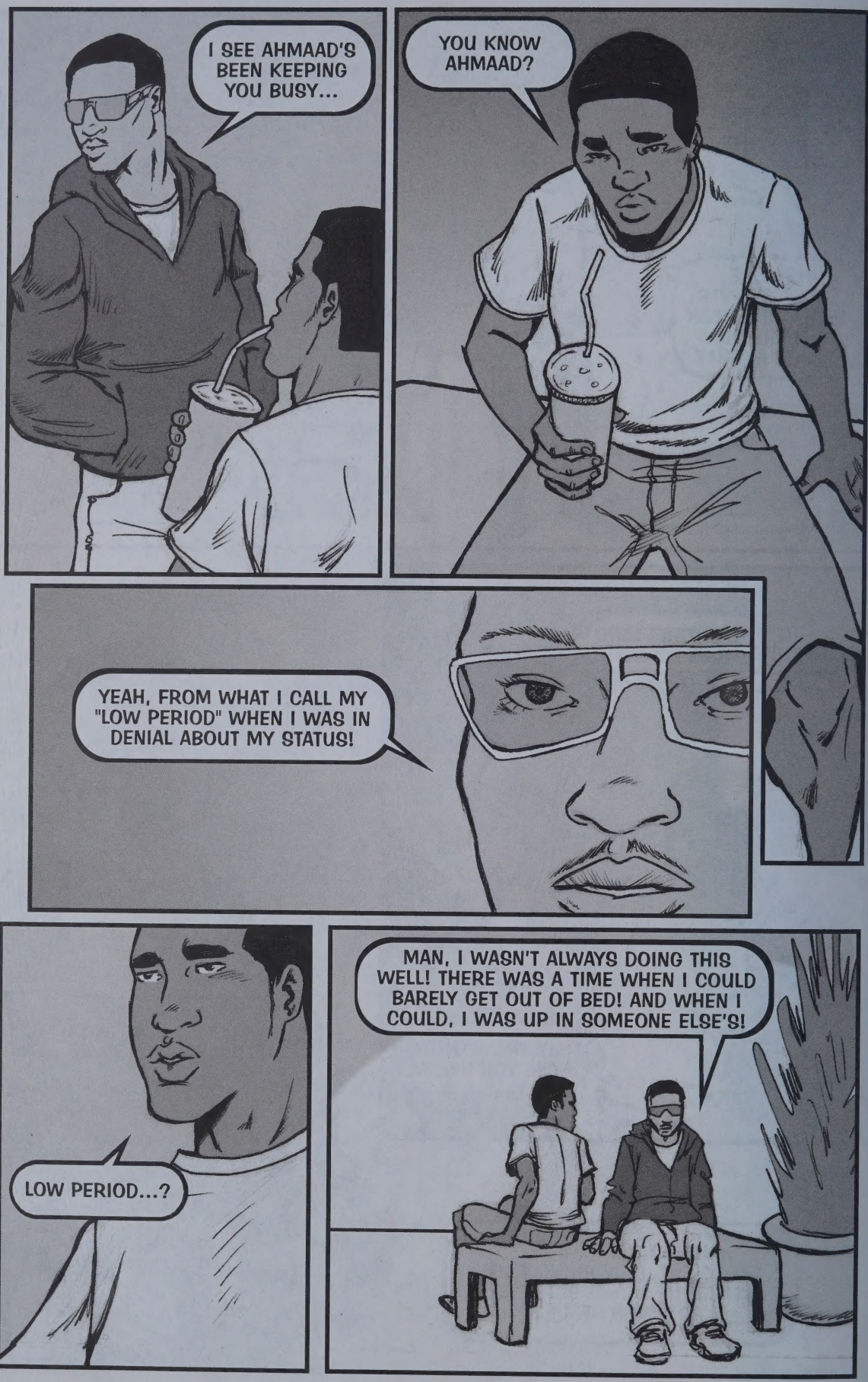
FOR a FREE HIV TEST...

CALL 1.800.551.2728

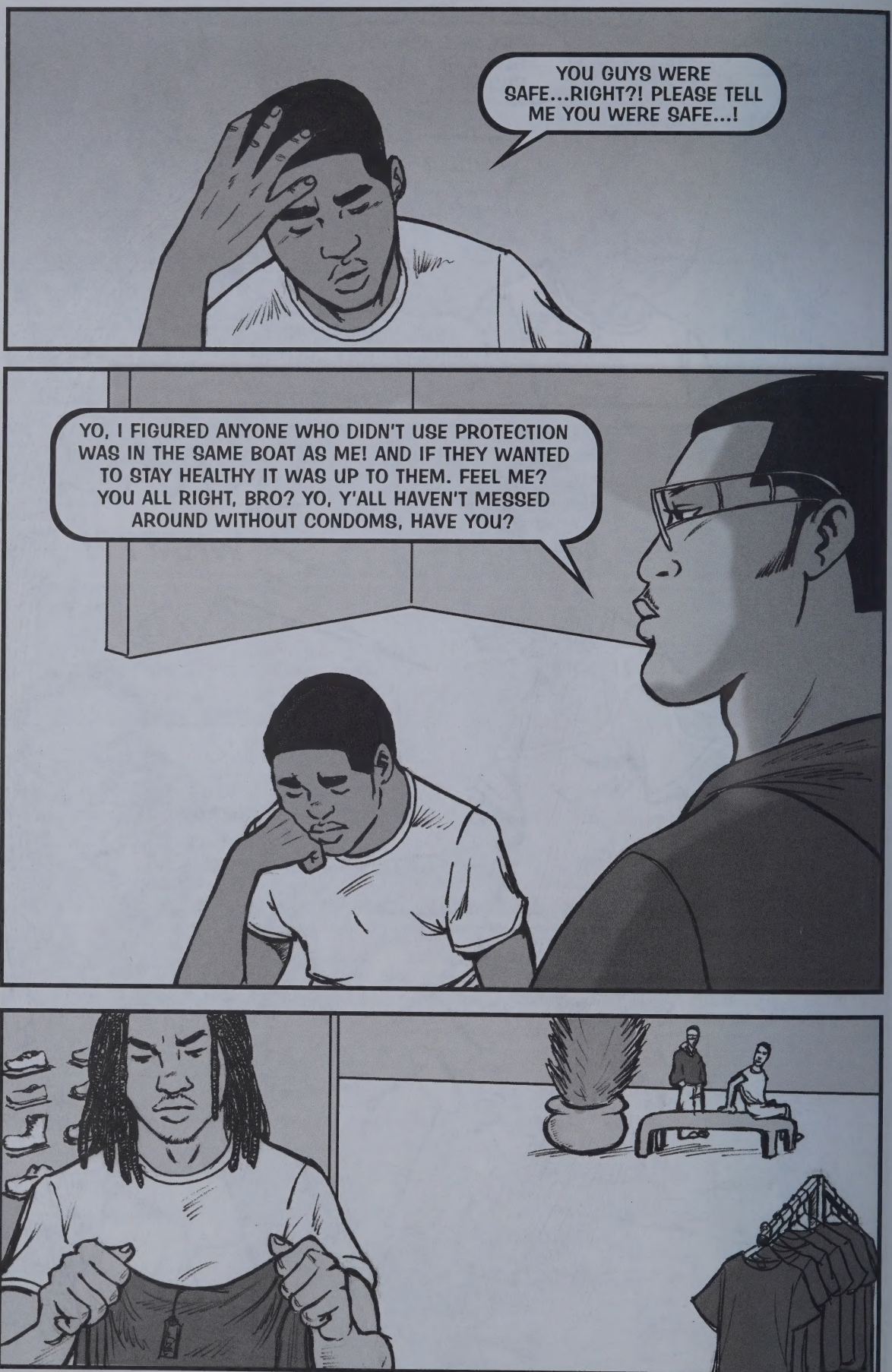
AHMAAD AND DRE, A COUPLE, ARE HAVING AN INTIMATE MOMENT AT AHMAAD'S APARTMENT AND THINGS ARE GETTING QUITE HEATED...
LET'S TAKE IT TO THE OTHER ROOM, BOO.
YOU GOT CONDOMS?
AW, DAMN, BABY, I FORGOT AGAIN!
DIDN'T YOU GO TO TRAXX LAST NITE? YOU COULD'VE GOT SOME THERE FOR FREE!
I WAS SO BUSY TALKING TO MY FOLKS I FORGOT.


YEAH, BUSY TRYING TO GET WITH SOME PIECE!
I TOLD YOU TO HAVE CONDOMS NEXT TIME!
IT WASN'T A PROBLEM LAST NIGHT! WE DIDN'T HAVE NO CONDOMS AND WE WERE STRAIGHT!
YOU WANNA DO IT OR NOT? YOU SAID YOU WANTED US TO SPEND MORE TIME TOGETHER...
HERE I AM! I GOT OTHER THINGS I COULD BE DOING.
SIGH COME ON...


LATER ON, DRE AND AHMAAD ARE AT THE MALL SHOPPING WHILE SOMEONE OBSERVES THEM.
HEY, DRE, I'MA RUN OVER HERE AND CHECK OUT THE NEW KICKS, AIIGHT?
OK, I'LL BE OVER HERE.
'SUP, DRE! LONG TIME NO SEE!
HEY, OMAR! HOW HAVE YOU BEEN?
MUCH BETTER. MY NEW TREATMENT IS WORKING A LOT BETTER THAN THAT SHIT THEY HAD ME ON BEFORE.


I SEE AHMAAD'S BEEN KEEPING YOU BUSY...
YOU KNOW AHMAAD?
YEAH, FROM WHAT I CALL MY "LOW PERIOD" WHEN I WAS IN DENIAL ABOUT MY STATUS!
LOW PERIOD...?
MAN, I WASN'T ALWAYS DOING THIS WELL! THERE WAS A TIME WHEN I COULD BARELY GET OUT OF BED! AND WHEN I COULD, I WAS UP IN SOMEONE ELSE'S!

WOW...
NOW, DRE, I'M NOT TRY'NA GET IN YO' BUSINESS, BUT...
BUT...?
BUT, YOUR FRIEND AHMAAD AND I USED TO KICK IT...!
WHAT??!


YOU GUYS WERE SAFE...RIGHT?! PLEASE TELL ME YOU WERE SAFE...!
YO, I FIGURED ANYONE WHO DIDN'T USE PROTECTION WAS IN THE SAME BOAT AS ME! AND IF THEY WANTED TO STAY HEALTHY IT WAS UP TO THEM. FEEL ME? YOU ALL RIGHT, BRO? YO, Y'ALL HAVEN'T MESSED AROUND WITHOUT CONDOMS, HAVE YOU?

WITH NOWHERE ELSE TO TURN, DRE VISITS HIS GAY MOTHER, DEVANTÉ, FOR SOME CONSOLATION AND ADVICE...
MISS THANG, I DON'T WANT TO HEAR IT! YOU'RE GONNA GET TESTED!
D, I CAN'T...
MY FAMILY DOESN'T KNOW ABOUT ME! WHAT IF I AM SICK? I COULD LOSE MY JOB AT THE RESTAURANT! DON'T NOBODY WANT SOME SICK PUNK HANDLIN' THEIR FOOD!

FIRST OF ALL MISS THING, WHY WEREN'T YOU USING CONDOMS? DON'T YOU KNOW UNPROTECTED ANAL SEX IS, LIKE, THE HIGHEST RISK FOR HIV INFECTION?
I'M NOT YOUR GURL! PLUS, HE DIDN'T HAVE ANY CONDOMS. ANYWAY, AHMAAD'S A TOP!
CHILE PULEASE! DON'T YOU KNOW ONE GURL'S TOP IS ANOTHER MAN'S BOTTOM!?
WHAT WERE YOU THINKING, GURL?
AND WHY DIDN'T YOU HAVE ANY CONDOMS?
WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU? I'VE TAUGHT YOU BETTER THAN THIS?

I LOVE AHMAAD! HE WANTED TO MAKE LOVE, AND THE SEX IS THE BOMB!
CHILE BOO! HE DON'T LOVE YOU! IF HE WAS EVEN THINKING ABOUT YOU, HE WOULD HAVE HAD A CONDOM, SIMPLE AS THAT!
AND IF YOU WERE THINKING ABOUT YOURSELF, YOU WOULD HAVE HAD ONE OF YOUR OWN!!

LOOK...I HAVE A GURL FRIEND THAT WORKS AT AID ATLANTA. THEY HAVE ALL SORTS OF PROGRAMS AND THEY DO HIV TESTS TOO.
DEVANTÉ, I DON'T EVEN WANT TO KNOW IF I'M POSITIVE! I JUST CAN'T DEAL WITH HAVING AIDS!
JUST BECAUSE YOU MIGHT BE HIV POSITIVE DOESN'T MEAN YOU HAVE TO GET AIDS, YOU JUST HAVE TO TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF!

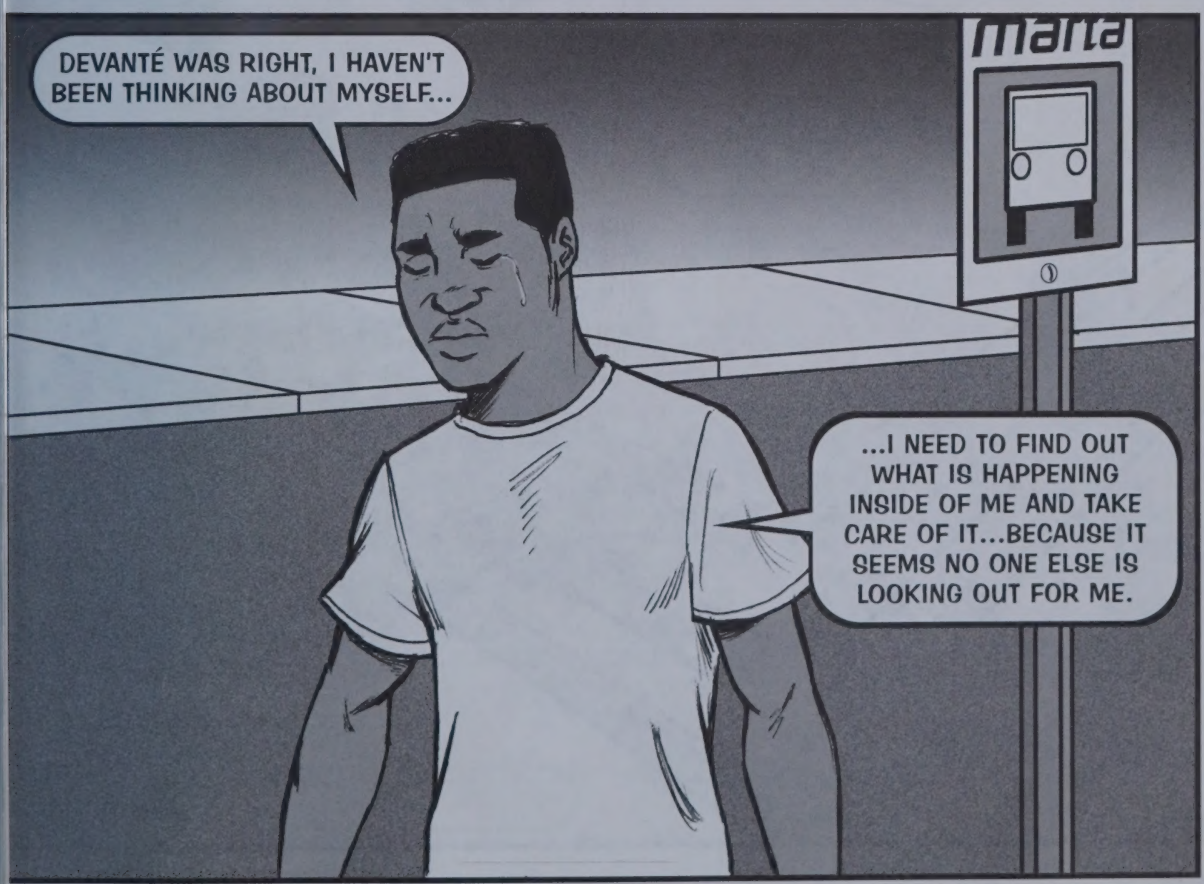
AHMAAD MUST KNOW THAT HE'S NOT POSITIVE. WHY ELSE WOULD HE SUGGEST WE NOT USE CONDOMS?
'CAUSE TO SOME BROTHERS IT'S ALL ABOUT A NUT! SOME OF THESE DUDES AREN'T THINKING ABOUT THEIR OWN HEALTH, MUCH LESS YOURS! YOU REALLY NEED TO WATCH YOURSELF. THINGS COULD GET REAL MESSY!
5D
YOU'RE WRONG, HE'S NOT LIKE THAT! I'M GONNA TALK TO AHMAAD TOMORROW!

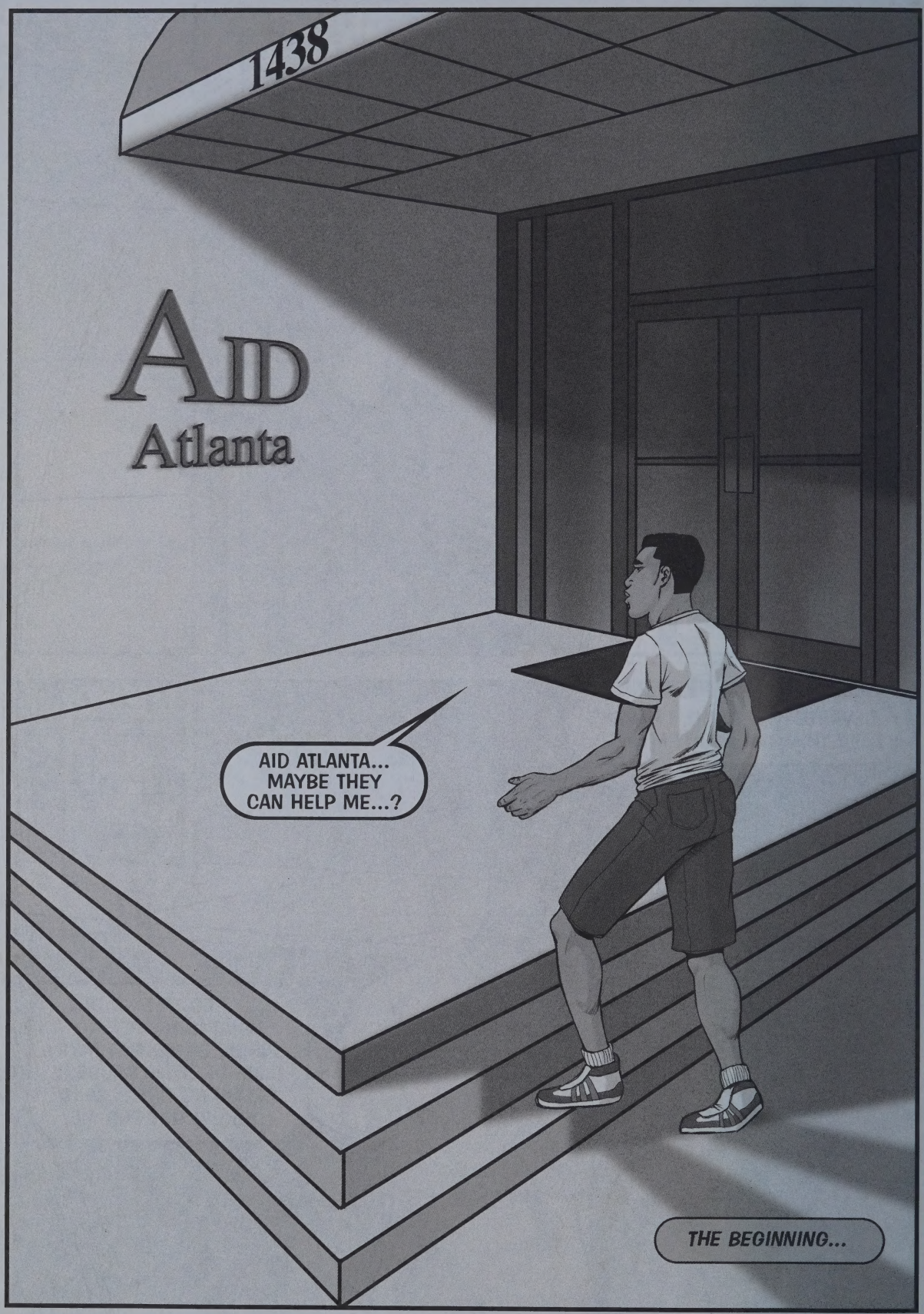
THE NEXT DAY, DRE AND AHMAAD ARE CHILLIN' OUT WATCHING T.V. BUT DRE HAS SOMETHING ELSE ON HIS MIND...
YOU WANT SOMETHING ELSE TO DRINK?
NO ...UM...I HAVE TO ASK YOU SOMETHING AHMAAD...
SIGH WHAT NOW?

HAVE YOU EVER BEEN TESTED FOR HIV?
WHAT?! YOU WAS TALKIN' TO THAT PUNK, OMAR IN THE MALL, WEREN'T YOU? I SAW Y'ALL!

AHMAAD, LOOK—
NAH, YOU LOOK! I DON'T HAVE NO AIDS, YOU HEAR ME? I'M NOT SICK, THAT SHIT IS FOR SISSIES!
THAT'S NOT TRUE...
IT'S NOT? YOU EVER SEE A BROTHA LIKE ME WITH THAT MESS? MAN GET OUTTA MY FACE!!
AHMAAD, PLEASE...!
MAN, GO! LEAVE! GO HANG WITH THEM SISSIES WITH AIDS! YOU CAN'T DEAL WITH A BROTHA LIKE ME!
NO...NO, I CAN'T...

DAMN! HOW COULD I HAVE BEEN SO STUPID! AND ALL BECAUSE I WANTED SOMEONE TO LOVE ME! I NEED TO STOP PUTTING MYSELF AT RISK AND STOP DEALING WITH DUDES THAT WANT ME TO PUT MYSELF AT RISK!


DEVANTÉ WAS RIGHT, I HAVEN'T BEEN THINKING ABOUT MYSELF...
MARTA
...I NEED TO FIND OUT WHAT IS HAPPENING INSIDE OF ME AND TAKE CARE OF IT...BECAUSE IT SEEMS NO ONE ELSE IS LOOKING OUT FOR ME.


1438
AID
Atlanta
AID ATLANTA... MAYBE THEY CAN HELP ME...?
THE BEGINNING...

DO YOU KNOW YOUR HIV STATUS?

ARE YOU SURE?

FOR INFO
ABOUT SERVICES
FOR YOUNG
BLACK MEN
DIAL 404.870.7746

FOR FREE HIV TESTING CALL 1.800.551.2728

Facts about HIV & AIDS:

Men who have sex with men continue to represent the largest number of people living with HIV.

12 million young people between 15 and 24 are living with HIV/AIDS.

AIDS is the leading cause of death for African American men in their 20's.

Black people account for 78% of Georgia's new AIDS cases but only 29% of Georgia's population.

AIDS is 100% preventable. [AIDS or HIV?]

People with HIV are living longer every day because of improved treatments.

A positive HIV test is no longer a death sentence,

it's a wake-up

For free, confidential testing call 1.800.551.2728

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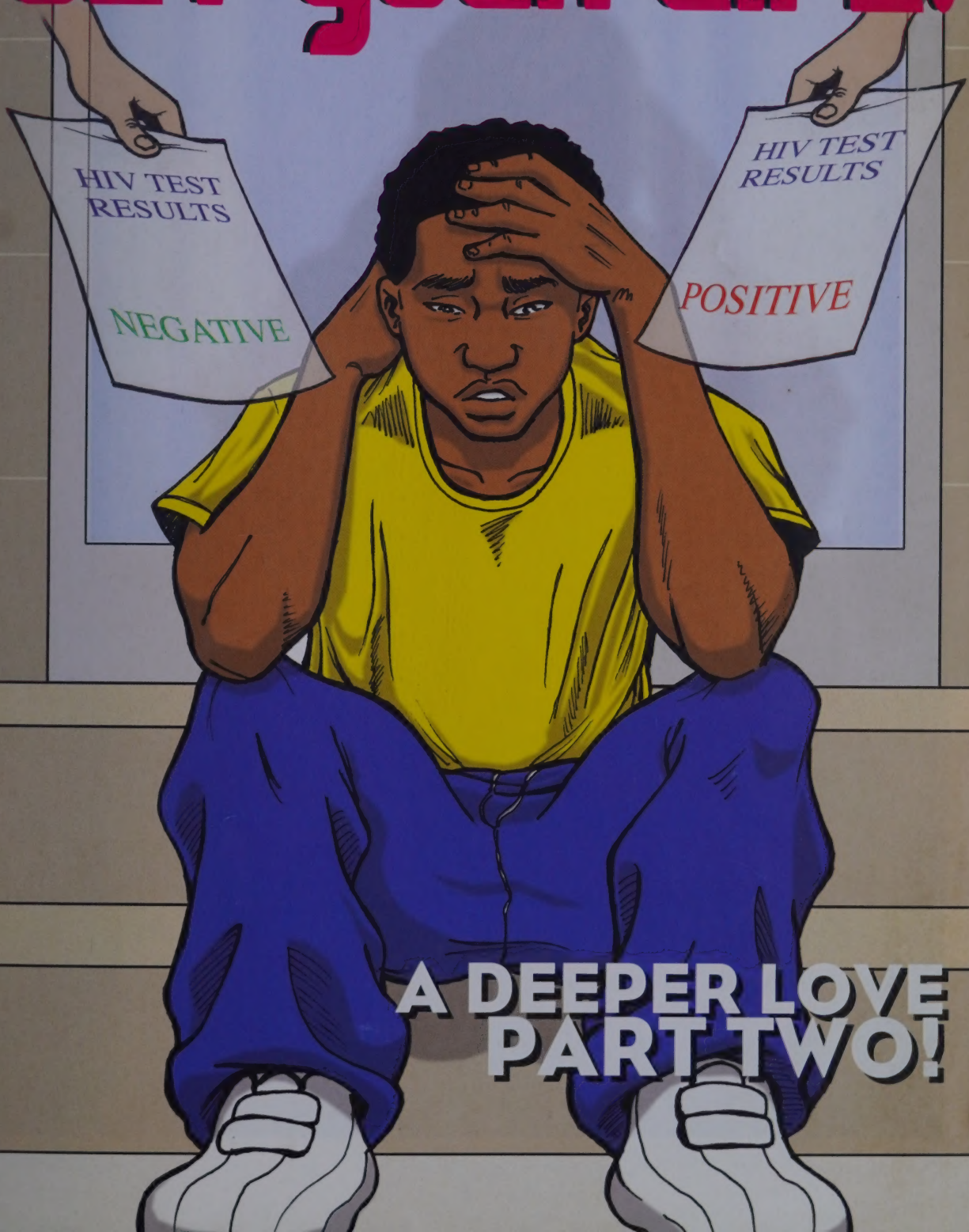
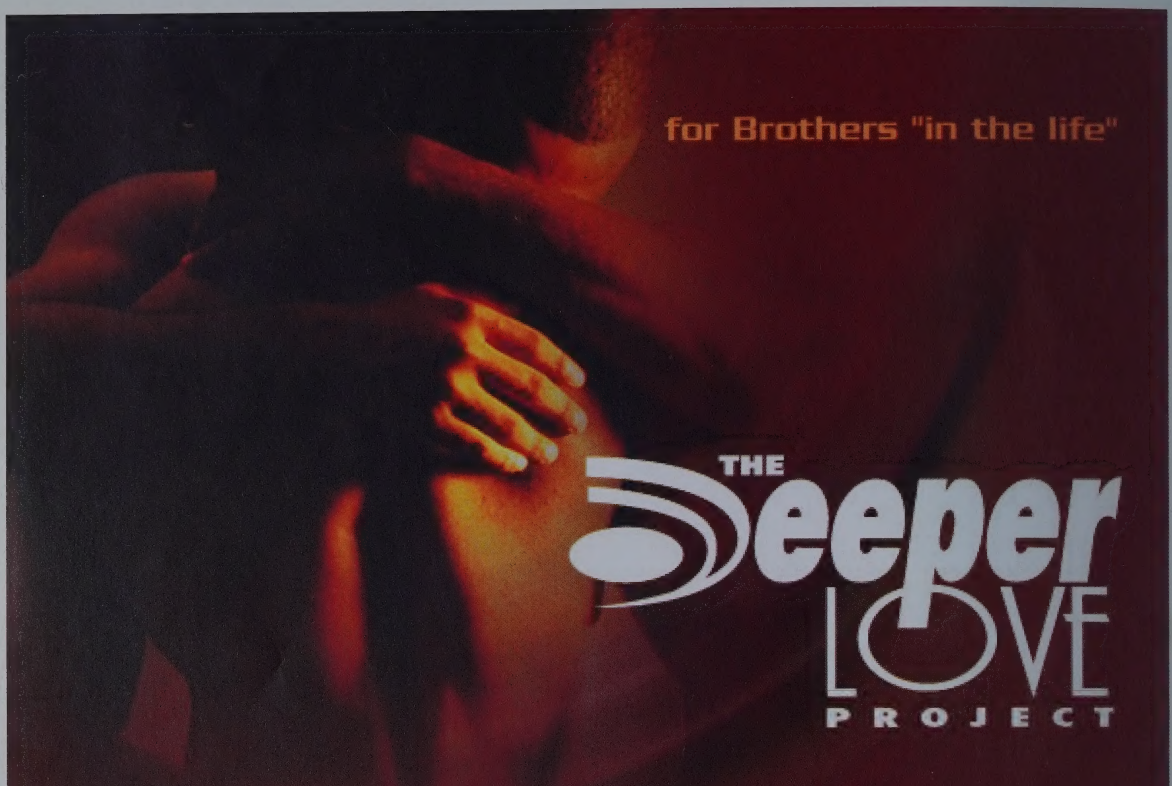


A DEEPER LOVE PART TWO!



Deeper Love
Join this dynamic, interactive experience for brothas who love other men. Sex, Love, Relationships, Risk & Rewards: we cover them and everything in-between!.

Think Again
in collaboration with Positive Impact
A monthly series of discussions based on the anthology of the same name, this series brings a new dimension to helping black men empower themselves to live healthy lives. (Copies of the book available FREE at the discussions.)

Bar, Club and Street Outreach
Providing prevention information and materials, and safer sex kits at Atlanta's hot spots.

Get Your Life!
An interactive conversation between young brothaz about love, relationships, sex, and how we take care of ourselves as a community.

FREE HIV Education & Prevention Programming
Including seminars, personal experience speakers, and classroom or on-the-job presentations.

For more information, contact
The Deeper Love Project
404.870.7740
deeperlove@aidatlanta.org

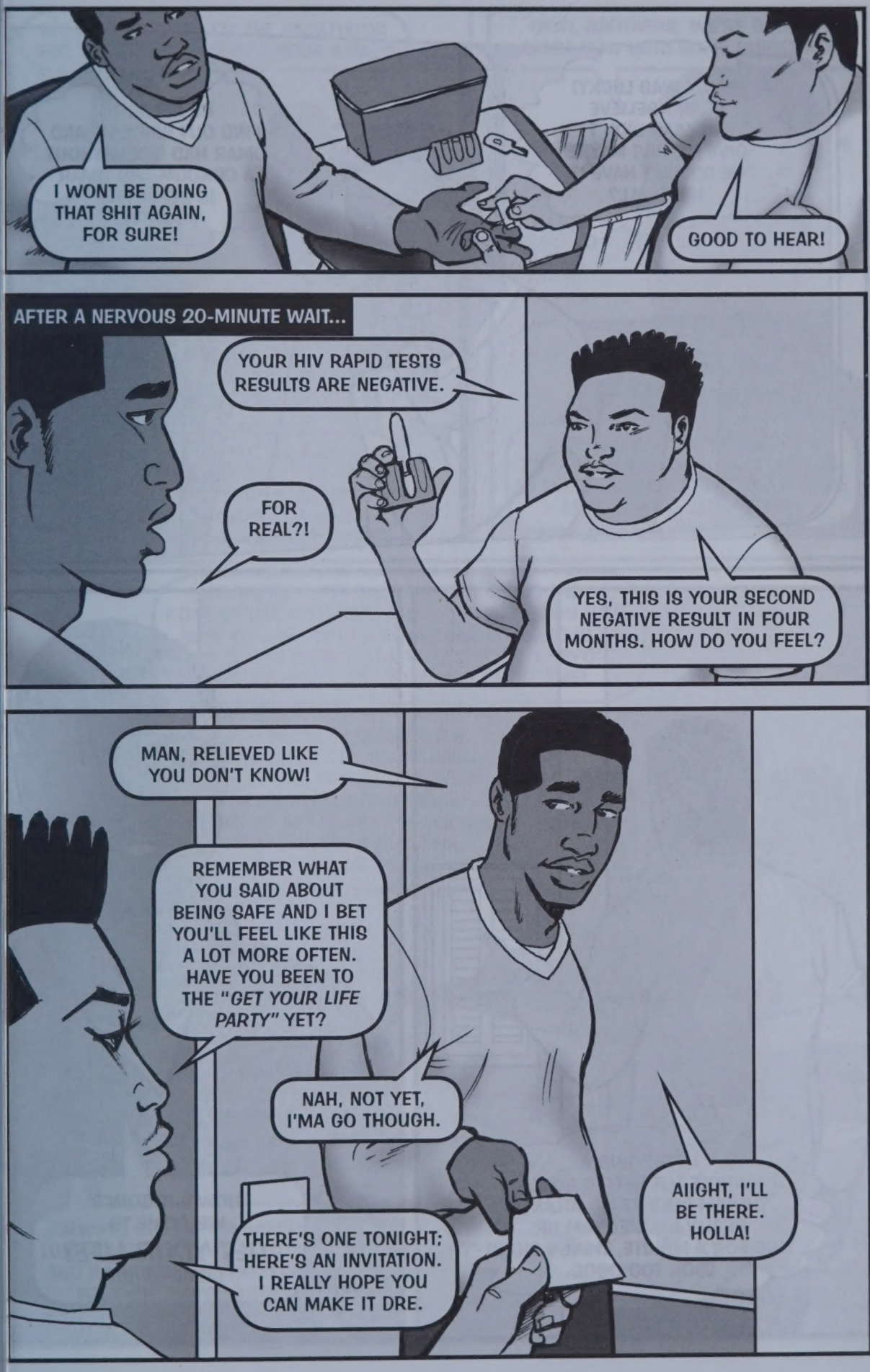
AID Atlanta
www.aidatlanta.org

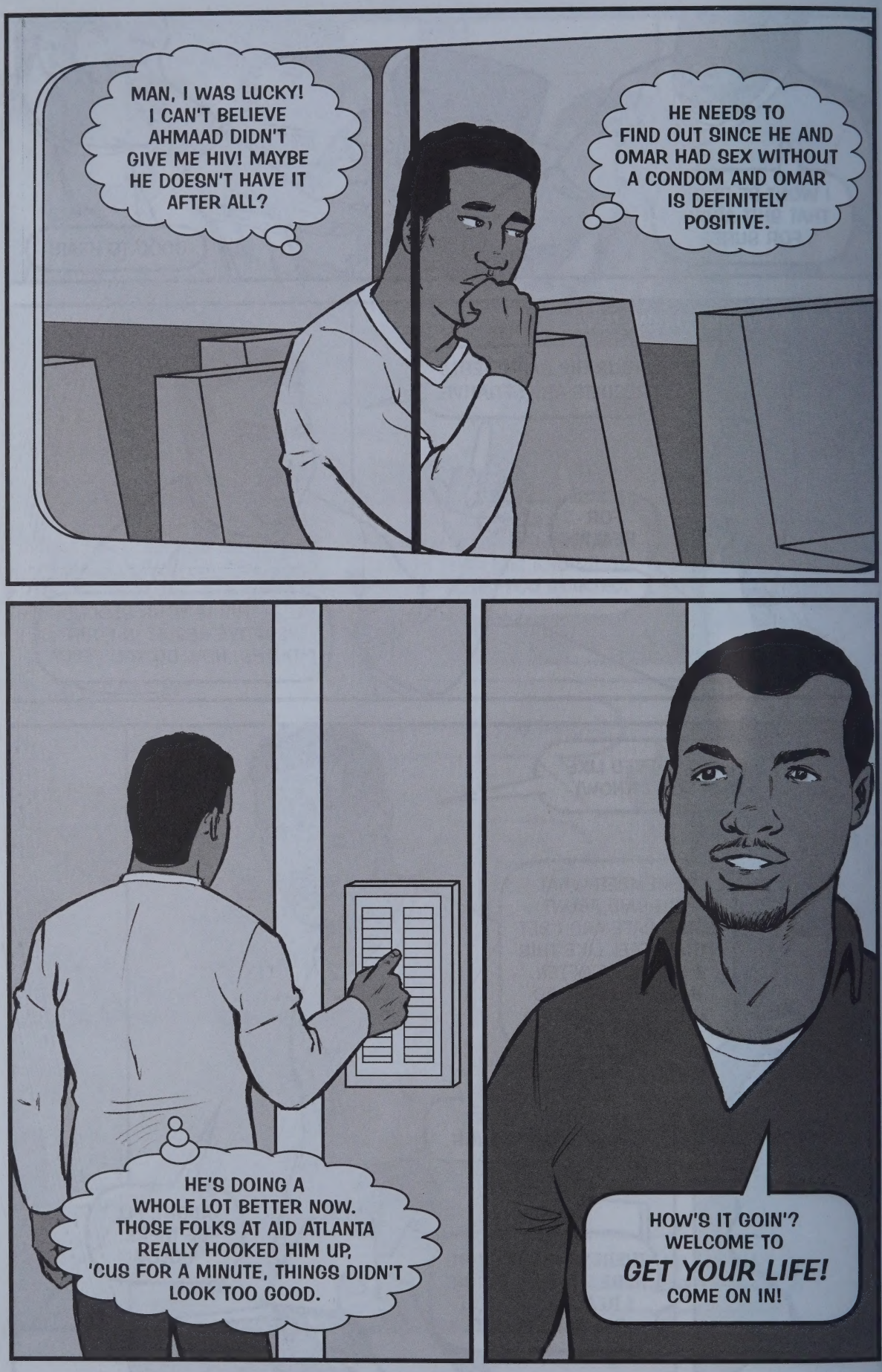
layout: emdesignsgroup.com | 404.230.2822
photo: malik m.l. williams | 404.808.6873

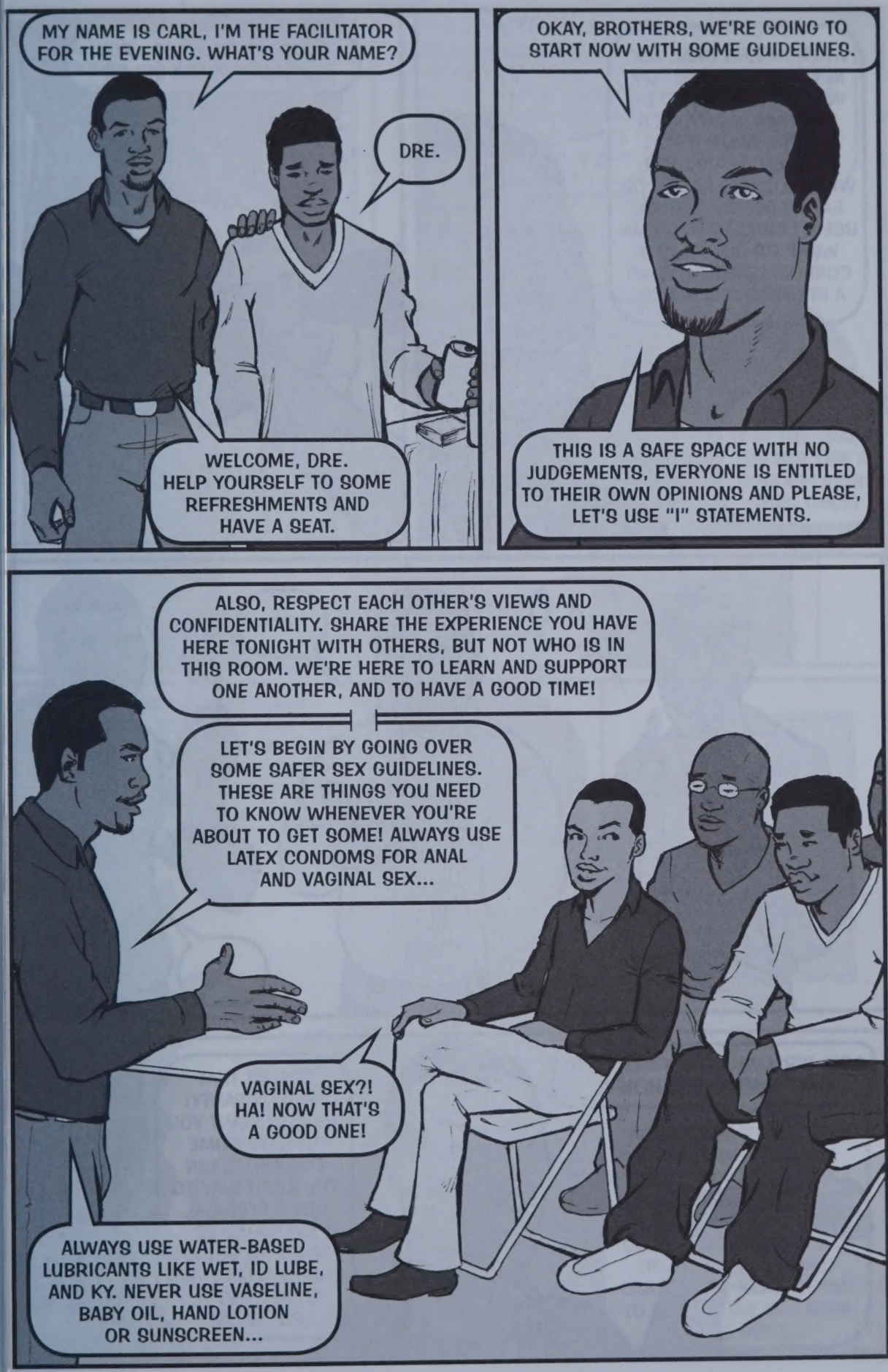
DRE HAS ARRIVED AT THE AID ATLANTA OFFICES TO TAKE A FOLLOW-UP HIV TEST. HE IS OBVIOUSLY NERVOUS.

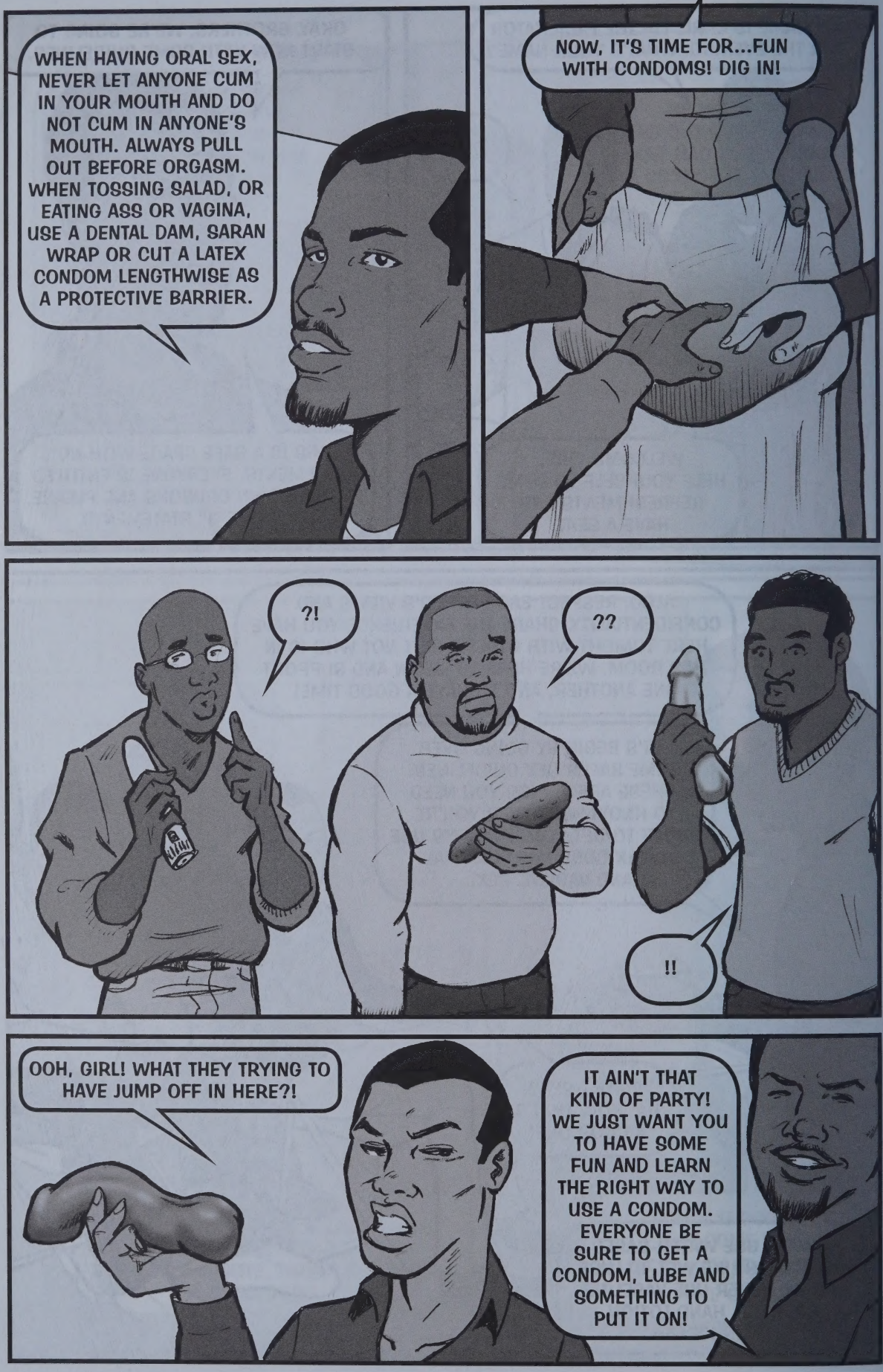
WHAT'S UP, DRE, HOW ARE YOU ?
I'LL GIVE YOU ONE GUESS!
A LITTLE NERVOUS?
VERY NERVOUS!
TRY TO RELAX. KNOWING YOUR HIV STATUS IS BETTER THAN NOT KNOWING! C'MON, LET'S GET YOU STARTED.

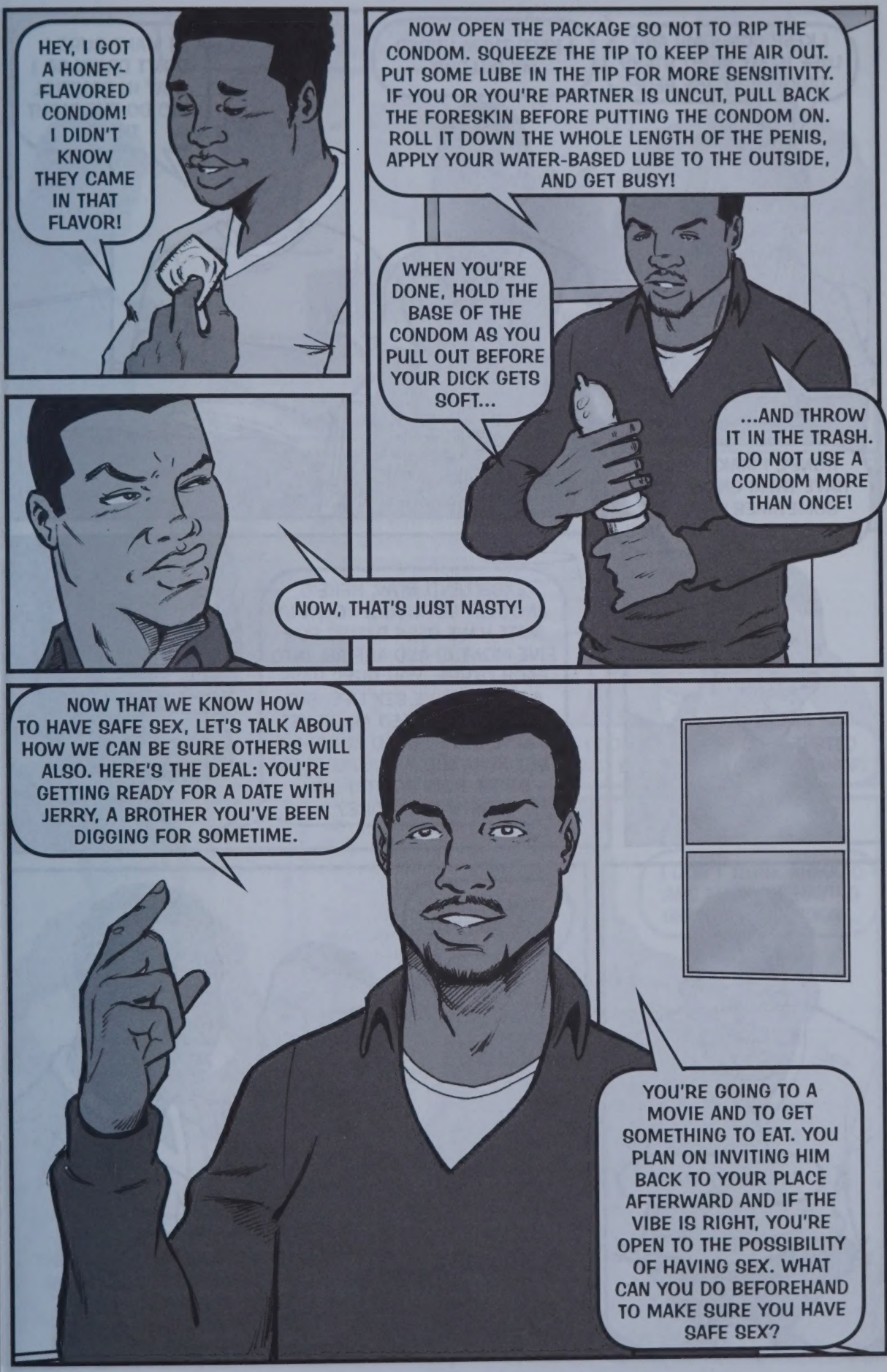
HEY, HOW'S IT GOING?
CAN WE MAKE THIS QUICK? I'M 'BOUT TO LOSE MY MIND, UP IN HERE!
TELL ME WHY YOU'RE SO NERVOUS?
I SLIPPED UP AND HAD UNPROTECTED SEX...


I WONT BE DOING THAT SHIT AGAIN, FOR SURE!
GOOD TO HEAR!
AFTER A NERVOUS 20-MINUTE WAIT...
YOUR HIV RAPID TESTS RESULTS ARE NEGATIVE.
FOR REAL?!
YES, THIS IS YOUR SECOND NEGATIVE RESULT IN FOUR MONTHS. HOW DO YOU FEEL?
MAN, RELIEVED LIKE YOU DON'T KNOW!
REMEMBER WHAT YOU SAID ABOUT BEING SAFE AND I BET YOU'LL FEEL LIKE THIS A LOT MORE OFTEN. HAVE YOU BEEN TO THE "*GET YOUR LIFE PARTY*" YET?
NAH, NOT YET, I'MA GO THOUGH.
THERE'S ONE TONIGHT; HERE'S AN INVITATION. I REALLY HOPE YOU CAN MAKE IT DRE.
AIIGHT, I'LL BE THERE. HOLLA!


MAN, I WAS LUCKY! I CAN'T BELIEVE AHMAAD DIDN'T GIVE ME HIV! MAYBE HE DOESN'T HAVE IT AFTER ALL?
HE NEEDS TO FIND OUT SINCE HE AND OMAR HAD SEX WITHOUT A CONDOM AND OMAR IS DEFINITELY POSITIVE.
HE'S DOING A WHOLE LOT BETTER NOW. THOSE FOLKS AT AID ATLANTA REALLY HOOKED HIM UP, 'CUS FOR A MINUTE, THINGS DIDN'T LOOK TOO GOOD.
HOW'S IT GOIN'? WELCOME TO GET YOUR LIFE! COME ON IN!


MY NAME IS CARL, I'M THE FACILITATOR FOR THE EVENING. WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
DRE.
WELCOME, DRE. HELP YOURSELF TO SOME REFRESHMENTS AND HAVE A SEAT.
OKAY, BROTHERS, WE'RE GOING TO START NOW WITH SOME GUIDELINES.
THIS IS A SAFE SPACE WITH NO JUDGEMENTS, EVERYONE IS ENTITLED TO THEIR OWN OPINIONS AND PLEASE, LET'S USE "I" STATEMENTS.
ALSO, RESPECT EACH OTHER'S VIEWS AND CONFIDENTIALITY. SHARE THE EXPERIENCE YOU HAVE HERE TONIGHT WITH OTHERS, BUT NOT WHO IS IN THIS ROOM. WE'RE HERE TO LEARN AND SUPPORT ONE ANOTHER, AND TO HAVE A GOOD TIME!
LET'S BEGIN BY GOING OVER SOME SAFER SEX GUIDELINES. THESE ARE THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW WHENEVER YOU'RE ABOUT TO GET SOME! ALWAYS USE LATEX CONDOMS FOR ANAL AND VAGINAL SEX...
VAGINAL SEX?! HA! NOW THAT'S A GOOD ONE!
ALWAYS USE WATER-BASED LUBRICANTS LIKE WET, ID LUBE, AND KY. NEVER USE VASELINE, BABY OIL, HAND LOTION OR SUNSCREEN...


WHEN HAVING ORAL SEX, NEVER LET ANYONE CUM IN YOUR MOUTH AND DO NOT CUM IN ANYONE'S MOUTH. ALWAYS PULL OUT BEFORE ORGASM. WHEN TOSSING SALAD, OR EATING ASS OR VAGINA, USE A DENTAL DAM, SARAN WRAP OR CUT A LATEX CONDOM LENGTHWISE AS A PROTECTIVE BARRIER.
NOW, IT'S TIME FOR...FUN WITH CONDOMS! DIG IN!
?!
??
!!
OOH, GIRL! WHAT THEY TRYING TO HAVE JUMP OFF IN HERE?!
IT AIN'T THAT KIND OF PARTY! WE JUST WANT YOU TO HAVE SOME FUN AND LEARN THE RIGHT WAY TO USE A CONDOM. EVERYONE BE SURE TO GET A CONDOM, LUBE AND SOMETHING TO PUT IT ON!


HEY, I GOT A HONEY-FLAVORED CONDOM! I DIDN'T KNOW THEY CAME IN THAT FLAVOR!
NOW OPEN THE PACKAGE SO NOT TO RIP THE CONDOM. SQUEEZE THE TIP TO KEEP THE AIR OUT. PUT SOME LUBE IN THE TIP FOR MORE SENSITIVITY. IF YOU OR YOU'RE PARTNER IS UNCUT, PULL BACK THE FORESKIN BEFORE PUTTING THE CONDOM ON. ROLL IT DOWN THE WHOLE LENGTH OF THE PENIS, APPLY YOUR WATER-BASED LUBE TO THE OUTSIDE, AND GET BUSY!
WHEN YOU'RE DONE, HOLD THE BASE OF THE CONDOM AS YOU PULL OUT BEFORE YOUR DICK GETS SOFT...
...AND THROW IT IN THE TRASH. DO NOT USE A CONDOM MORE THAN ONCE!
NOW, THAT'S JUST NASTY!
NOW THAT WE KNOW HOW TO HAVE SAFE SEX, LET'S TALK ABOUT HOW WE CAN BE SURE OTHERS WILL ALSO. HERE'S THE DEAL: YOU'RE GETTING READY FOR A DATE WITH JERRY, A BROTHER YOU'VE BEEN DIGGING FOR SOMETIME.
YOU'RE GOING TO A MOVIE AND TO GET SOMETHING TO EAT. YOU PLAN ON INVITING HIM BACK TO YOUR PLACE AFTERWARD AND IF THE VIBE IS RIGHT, YOU'RE OPEN TO THE POSSIBILITY OF HAVING SEX. WHAT CAN YOU DO BEFOREHAND TO MAKE SURE YOU HAVE SAFE SEX?

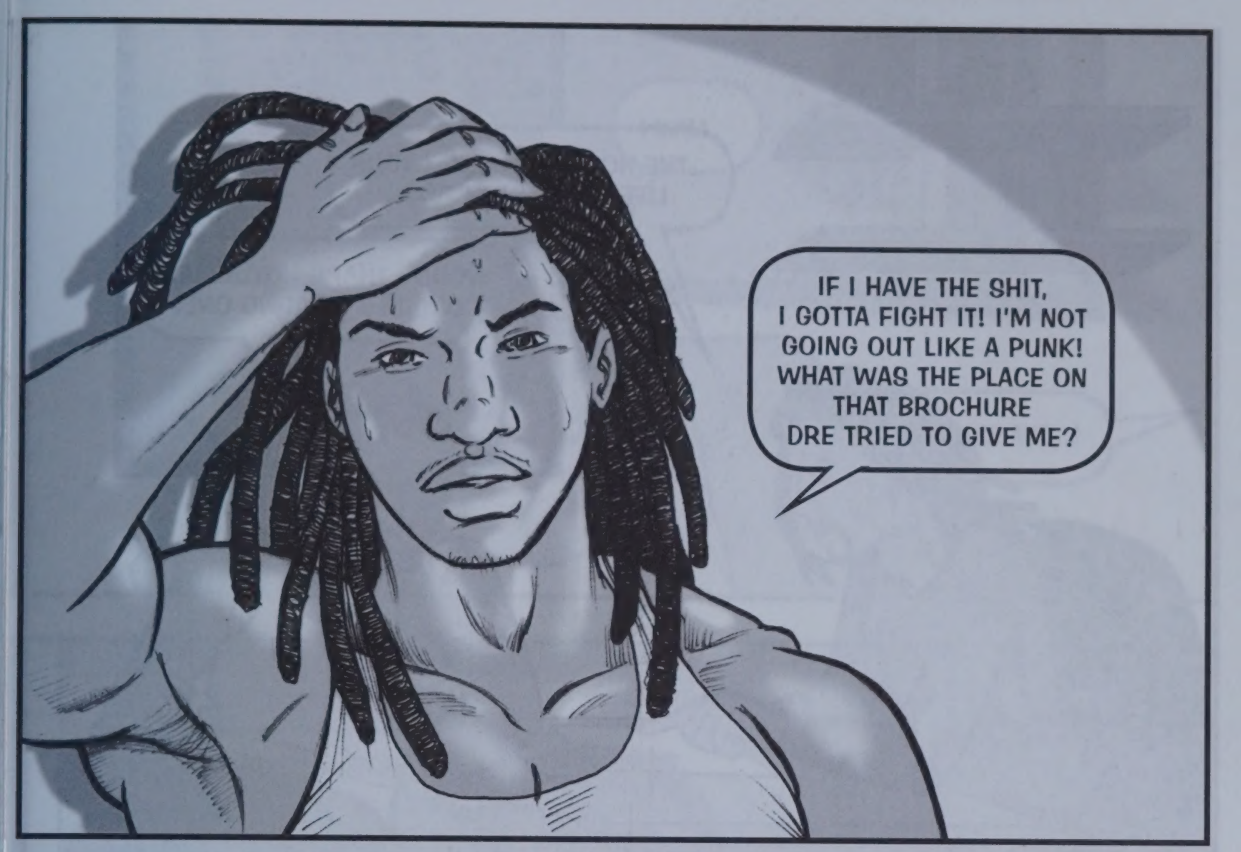
I KEEP CONDOMS AND LUBE IN MY NIGHT STAND DRAWER BY THE BED.
I KEEP THEM UNDER MY PILLOW!
I MAKE SURE I DON'T DRINK SO I STAY IN CONTROL AND DO THE RIGHT THING.
HONEY, I MAKE SURE I HAVE THEM ON ME, 'CUS SOMETIMES WE DON'T MAKE IT OUT OF THE CAR!
EXCELLENT! NOW, HERE'S ANOTHER SCENARIO: YOU AND MATT HAVE BEEN DATING FOR FIVE MONTHS AND ARE ALL INTO EACH OTHER. YOU GUYS HAVE A VERY ACTIVE SEX LIFE, BUT AREN'T COMMITTED AS OF YET. YOU'VE NEVER USED CONDOMS BUT NOW YOU WOULD LIKE TO START. HOW DO YOU DEAL WITH THIS? DRE?
I...I DON'T KNOW.
TAKE YOUR TIME, SWEETIE.
I...GUESS I WOULDN'T. HE...HE MIGHT LEAVE ME... LIKE AHMAAD DID.

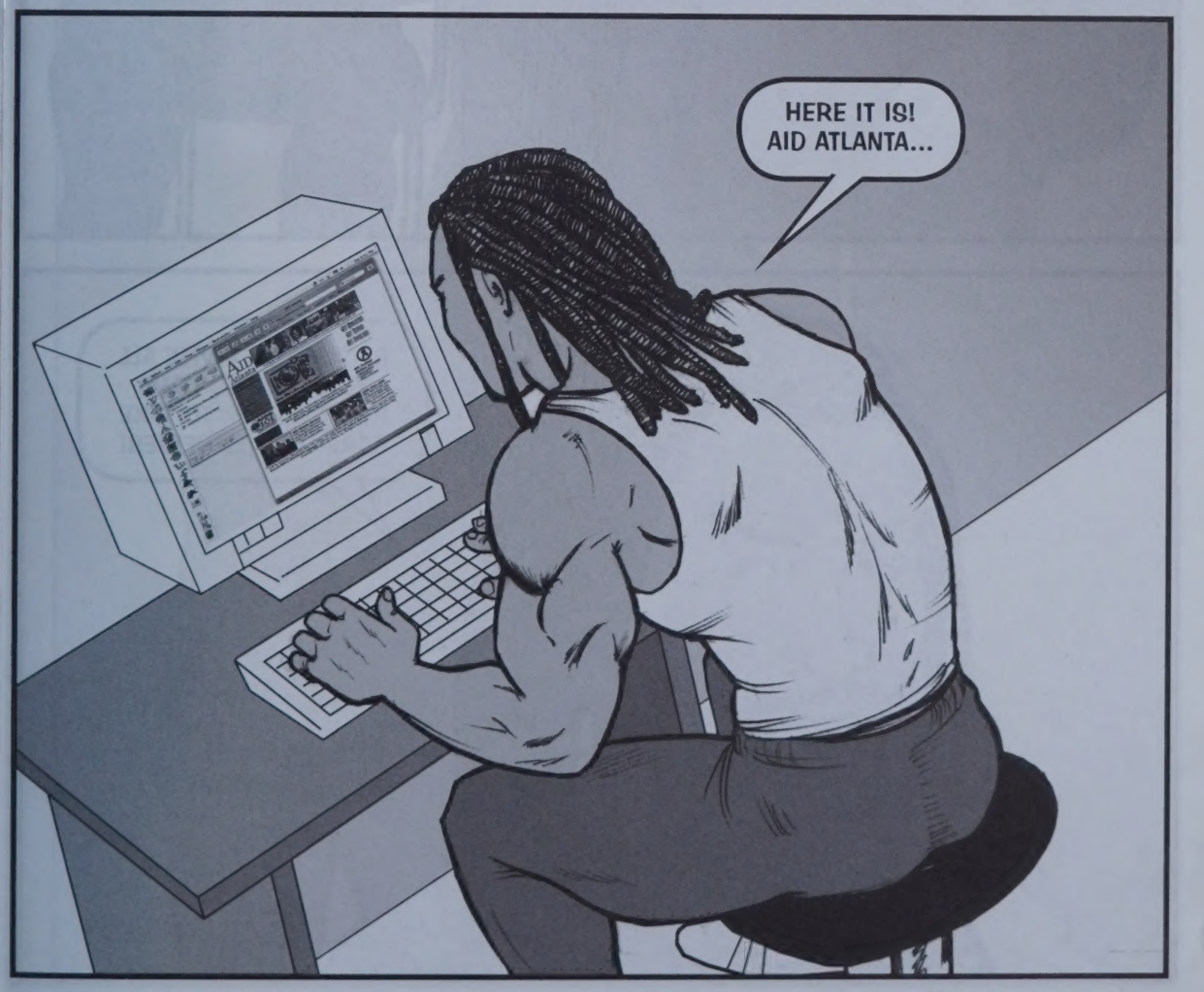
DRE, WOULD YOU LIKE TO SHARE WITH US WHY AHMAAD DIDN'T WANT TO USE CONDOMS?
MAN, TAKE YOUR PICK. HE DIDN'T HAVE ANY, HE DIDN'T LIKE THE FEEL, HE DIDN'T WANT TO BREAK THE FLOW—WHATEVER!
CAN ANYONE HELP DRE?
YOU CAN TELL HIM THAT YOU'D FEEL MORE COMFORTABLE USING CONDOMS AND IF YOU'RE MORE COMFORTABLE YOU BOTH WILL HAVE BETTER SEX
I'D TELL HIM IT'S FOR HIS OWN GOOD AS WELL AS MINE! HE COULD GET HIV FROM ME IF I HAD IT...
BUT I KNOW I DON'T 'CUS I'VE BEEN TESTED AND HAVE NEVER PUT MYSELF AT RISK SINCE!
HONEY, YOU TELL THAT MAN, NO RUBBER, NO NOOKIE AND KEEP IT MOVIN'!
DO YOU THINK YOU CAN USE ONE OF THOSE THE NEXT TIME YOU AND AHMAAD HAVE SEX?
I DON'T THINK AHMAAD AND I WILL BE HAVING SEX ANY TIME SOON...

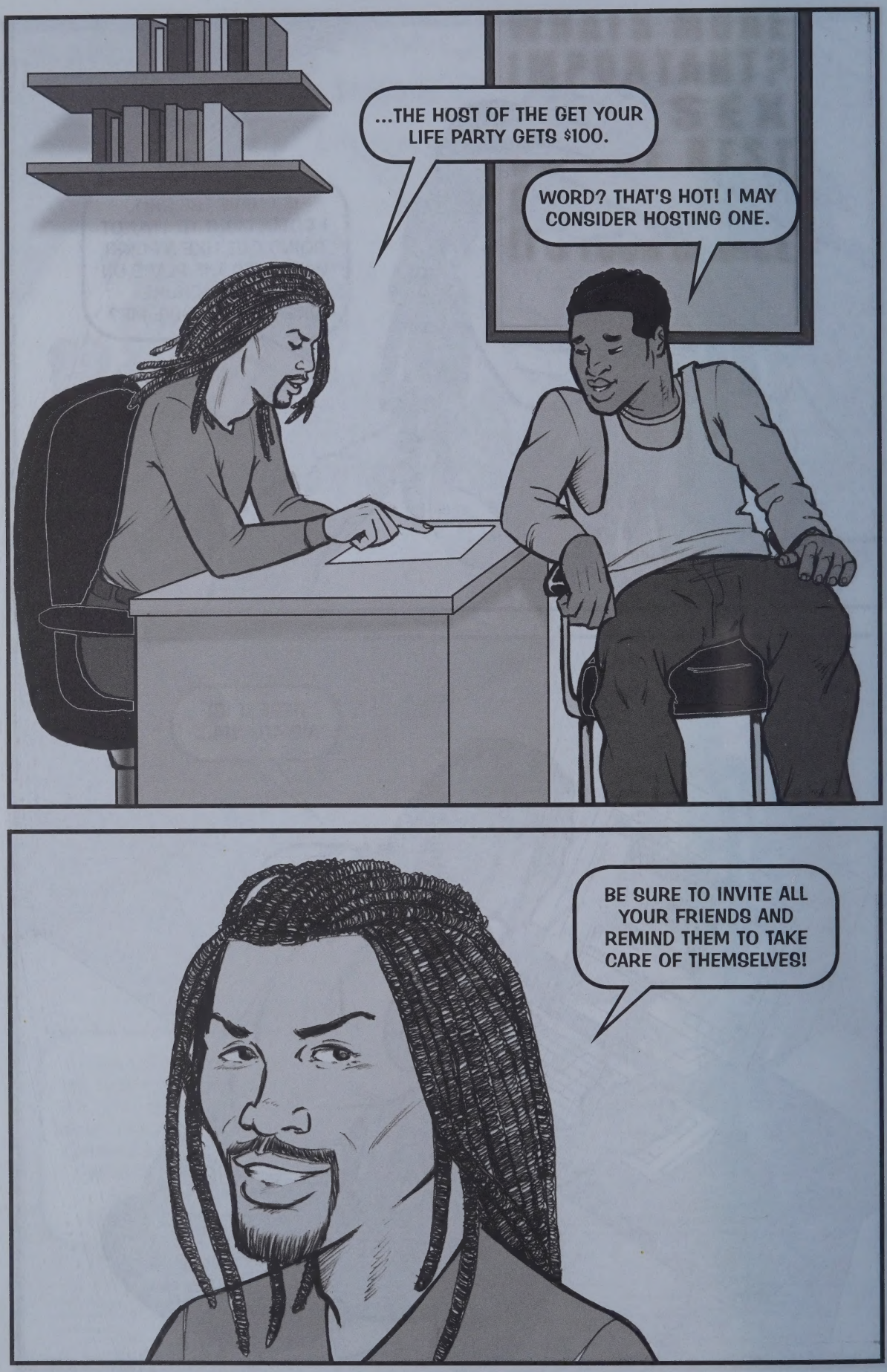
THE NEXT DAY, DRE IS DOWNTOWN AND RUNS INTO AHMAAD!
WELL, WELL. IF IT ISN'T MR. AIDS WATCH. HAVING FUN HANGING OUT WITH ALL YOUR POSITIVE, SISSY FRIENDS?!
AHMAAD, YOU NEED TO GO GET TESTED.
HERE...THIS IS WHERE I WENT.
AID Atlanta
I TOLD YOU, NIGGA, I AIN'T GOT THAT MESS!
I DON'T ROLL WITH MESSY QUEENS LIKE YOU DO.
SWAT!

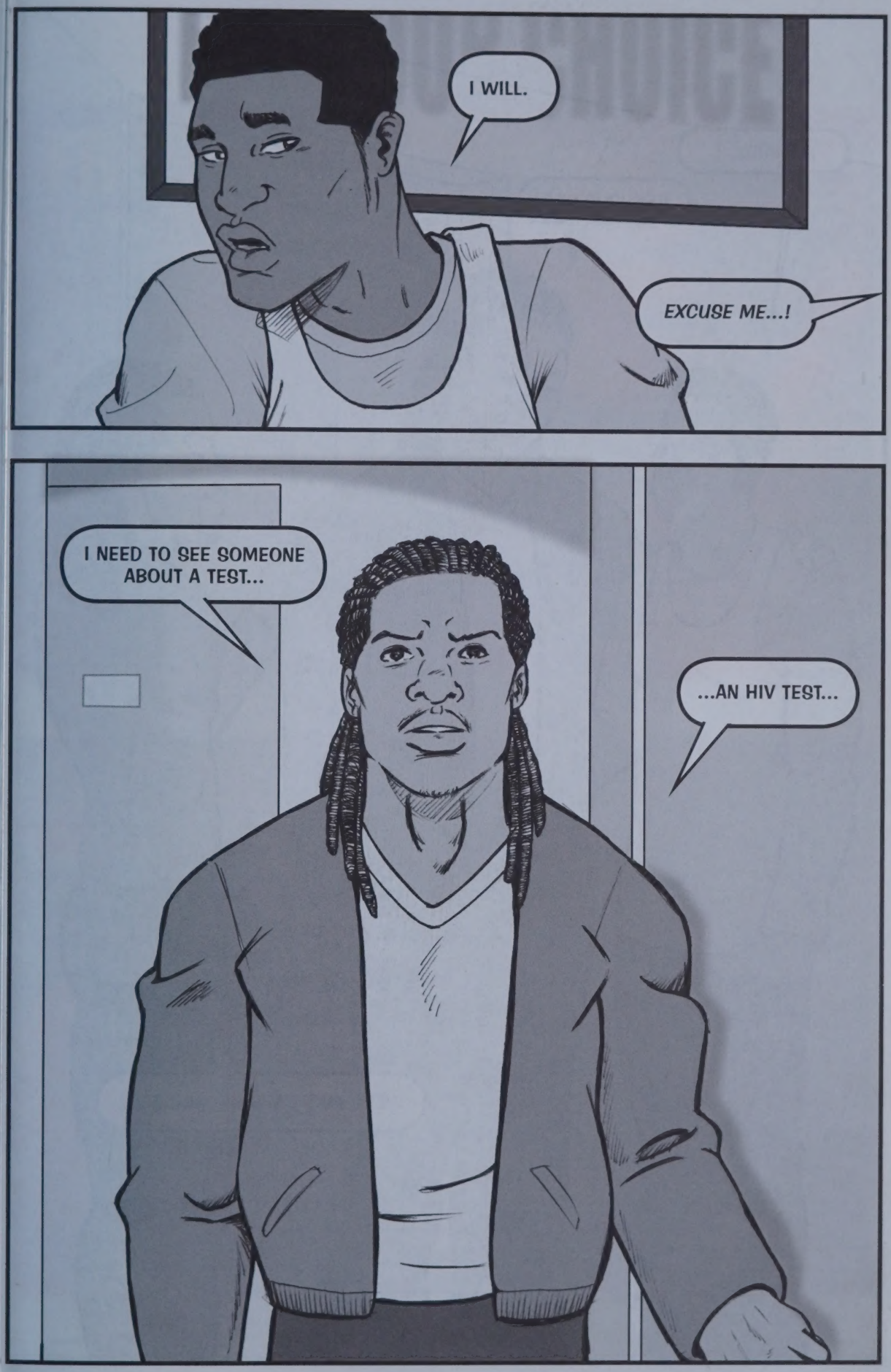
BESIDES, I DON'T GET FUCKED!
IT DOESN'T MATTER! IF YOU HAD ANAL SEX WITH SOMEONE AND DIDNT USE A CONDOM, YOU CAN GET HIV!
MAN, I ALREADY TOLD YOU—
AHMAAD! YOU DO KNOW OMAR HAS AIDS, DON'T YOU?
SHUT THE FUCK UP!!!
I'M TIRED OF ALL THIS AIDS SHIT!

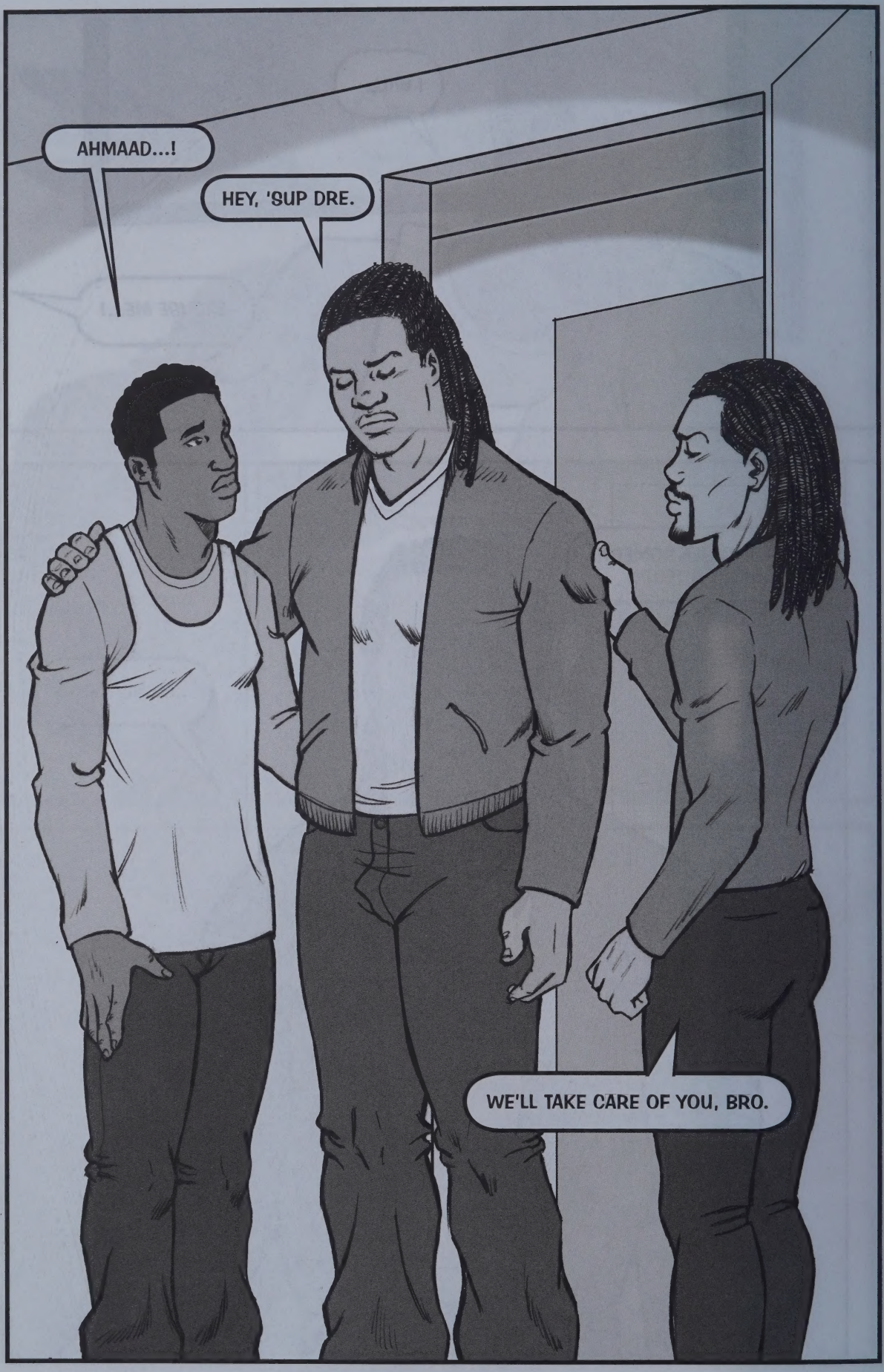
FUCK!!
I KNEW OMAR WAS SICK, BUT I DIDN'T KNOW IT WAS AIDS!...HELL I DIDN'T WANT TO KNOW, ESPECIALLY SINCE WE DID IT WITHOUT CONDOMS.
I EVEN LET HIM FUCK ME! WE WAS DRUNK AND HIGH AS HELL, OTHERWISE THAT WOULDN'T HAVE HAPPENED. DAMN! WHAT THE HELL AM I GONNA DO? DO I EVEN WANT TO KNOW? I DON'T WANNA DIE...


IF I HAVE THE SHIT, I GOTTA FIGHT IT! I'M NOT GOING OUT LIKE A PUNK! WHAT WAS THE PLACE ON THAT BROCHURE DRE TRIED TO GIVE ME?


HERE IT IS! AID ATLANTA...

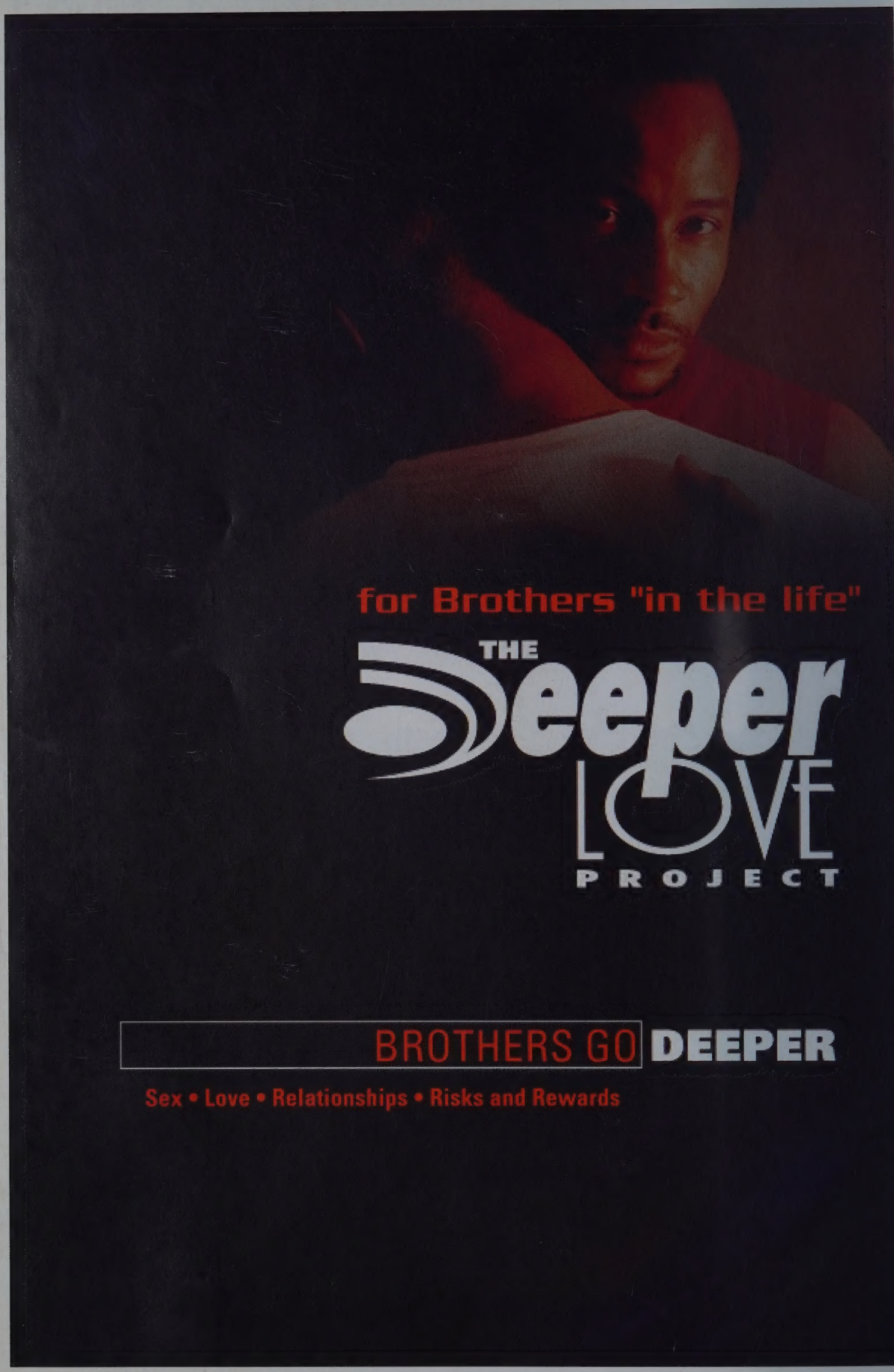

...THE HOST OF THE GET YOUR LIFE PARTY GETS $100.
WORD? THAT'S HOT! I MAY CONSIDER HOSTING ONE.
BE SURE TO INVITE ALL YOUR FRIENDS AND REMIND THEM TO TAKE CARE OF THEMSELVES!


I WILL.
EXCUSE ME...!
I NEED TO SEE SOMEONE ABOUT A TEST...
...AN HIV TEST...


AHMAAD...!
HEY, 'SUP DRE.
WE'LL TAKE CARE OF YOU, BRO.

FREE HIV Testing
Do You Know Your HIV Status?
Counseling and Testing Services are offered FREE of charge to anyone who would like to be tested and know their status.
AID Atlanta's Counseling and Testing Services offers Anonymous Testing with the use of the OraQuick Advance® Rapid HIV 1&2 Antibody Test.
results in 20 minutes!
*Please allow approximately 1 hour for your visit to complete Counseling and Testing Process.
safe, reliable & private
For more information call: 404-870-7753
AID Atlanta Counseling and Testing Services
infolines@aidatanta.org
AID Atlanta
www.aidatlanta.org

Tight Masculine Brotha, 5'11,
165lbs, cut, top. He told his stats,
did he tell you his status?
Be sure, and be safe.
Use protection and have fun.
For condoms, information
or a Free HIV Test Call,
404.870.7746
DeeperLOVE


for Brothers "in the life"
THE
Deeper
LOVE
PROJECT
BROTHERS GO DEEPER
Sex • Love • Relationships • Risks and Rewards